

Sun shines again

Restaurant opens doors after a year-long hiatus

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The lights are on at the Sun Tavern once again.

The restaurant on Route 14 opened its doors on Tuesday after a hiatus of more than a year.

The building was purchased by Lawrence Friedman and his wife Carol. The Friedman's owned the restaurant from 1996-2000 and promise to keep the traditional feel intact.

The Sun Tavern was more than an investment to the couple. Years ago, when Friedman was living in Pembroke his work brought him to Duxbury and he grew fond of the restaurant, at the time called Fiddler's Green.

"We used to come here every weekend," Friedman said. "We fell in love with this place."

During the time the building was shuttered, Friedman said he thought of it often.

"I was driving by every day, thinking, someone please buy it," he said.

In the end, that someone was him. It took months to



Carol and Lawrence Friedman outside the Sun Tavern. The Friedmans, who owned the restaurant from 1996-2000, have opened the business again after it was shuttered in early 2009.

work out the deal — Friedman said he started the process in November — and during that time, the building, which dates back to 1741 when it was the home of Lysander Walker, started to decline. (It's said that Walker's ghost still haunts the place — and Carol Friedman swears she heard some voices while the bar was being reconstructed.)

Because of the delay, the building did suffer some damage. The roof had to be replaced and some other work

was done, but everything was ready for the grand opening on Tuesday.

After Friedman sold the restaurant, the property was owned by Kevin Dubois. In 2006, Dubois sought unsuccessfully to expand the Sun Tavern to add banquet space and additional seating. The Board of Appeals rejected his request in the face of neighborhood opposition.

John Cowden, a Duxbury resident, and his wife Linda bought the property in September of 2007. Although owning a restaurant was always a dream of the couple, Cowden said last January it had become economically impossible to keep open.

Diners returning to the Sun Tavern won't notice many physical changes to the building, although the bar has been expanded, and a coat closet has been taken out.

The major change is that the kitchen is now open, and patrons can peek in to see Executive Chef Ken Wisneski creating his dishes.

"It's more open," said Friedman. "We're going to be cooking a lot in that kitchen."



Head chef Ken Wisneski serves up some beet risotto at a sneak-peek party held on Saturday, before the restaurant's official opening on Tuesday.